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LETTER DATED 20 NOVEMBER 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CROATIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter dated 20 November 1997 from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Croatia, Mr. Mate Granić, addressed to you.

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ivan ŠIMONOVIĆ
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

97-32971 (E) 201197

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Annex

Letter dated 20 November 1997 from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Croatia addressed to the Secretary-General

I would like to thank you for your letter in which you have presented the position of the United Nations Secretariat regarding the request of the Government of the Republic of Croatia for police monitors in Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium in the period after the termination of the mandate of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium (UNTAES) on 15 January 1998. Your response directed at providing support to the Republic of Croatia for the comprehensive implementation of the process of reintegration and stabilization of the situation in the region I find both constructive and acceptable.

Based on the assurances that the UNTAES mandate will terminate on 15 January 1998, please allow me to convey the official position of my Government in this regard.

The Republic of Croatia accepts the activities of the Civilian Police Support Group, numbering 180 personnel for a single nine-month period, with the provision that their presence in Croatia could be shortened in duration, in line with the positive development of the situation in the region.

As regards the future activities of the Civilian Police Support Group, the Government of Croatia confirms the agreement that it shall be territorially strictly limited to the Danube region, i.e., to the territory currently covered by the UNTAES mandate. The Republic of Croatia accepts the activities of the Civilian Police Support Group to monitor Croatian police activity in the Danube region and provide assistance to improve its professional capability. I also find acceptable the proposed organizational framework of the Civilian Police Support Group in Vukovar under the overall responsibility of a small substantive unit based in Zagreb, as well as your intention to nominate the senior official.

Once again, I emphasize the readiness of the Government of Croatia to provide the necessary protection, if needed, to the Civilian Police Support Group, which will act in the Danube region after 15 January 1998.

In the spirit of mutual cooperation as manifested during the talks between the President of the Republic of Croatia, Dr. Franjo Tudman, and the United Nations Transitional Administrator, Mr. William Walker, and through the exchange of letters between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Government of Croatia, I take the liberty to express our expectation that the Security Council will endorse this agreement in its entirety and with no changes, confirming the fact that the situation in the Croatian Danube region no longer and in no way constitutes a threat to international peace and security.

The Republic of Croatia remains determined to bring the process of peaceful reintegration of the Danube region to its successful end to the satisfaction and benefit of all its citizens and as proof of the commitment of the Government of Croatia to continue to act as an agent of peace and guarantor of stability in the region.

(Signed) Dr. Mate GRANIĆ